SBARA's Groundplane

JUNE 2010

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 6

*The monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Amateur Radio Association*

ARRL Member Club Since 1974

## ARRL Field Day Overview

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate. This year ***Field Day is June 26 and 27, 2010. SBARA will be at Lake Elizabeth in Fremont just off of Paseo Padre Parkway and Sailway Drive.*** Come and make a few contacts!!

ARRL Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs,

ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of our annual calendar.

### June Meeting Raffle Prizes:

100-foot roll of antenna rope - just in time for Field Day!

a pair of Cobra CXT 400 GMRS/FRS radios with VOX, NOAA Weather Alert, and charger

a Super PWRgate PG40s 12 VDC backup power system - supplies up to 40 amperes continuously from either a power supply or a battery. The Super PWRgate has a built-in four-stage battery charger circuit with a selectable maximum current of 1, 4, 7, or 10 amperes for any size battery of power supply. Optimized for sealed lead acid GEL and AGM batteries, or may be used with flooded marine and automotive.

73,
Robin, KI6YTA

### Super Powergate 40S

**Special Interest...**

- Field Day Overview
- VE Group News
- HT @ Work Day
- Hayward Zucchini Festival

### Table of Contents


| | |
|---|---|
| June Raffle | 1 |
| Marker Faire in Retrospect | 2 |
| Have a Good Field Day !! | 4 |
| HRO Ad | 8 |
| SBARA Officers | 9 |
| Wrapper | 10 |


The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

SBARA's Groundplane

## 2010 SBARA Field Day Plans Moving Forward

Everything SBARA needs for Field Day is in this little box…..Would you like to help with the Setup on Friday, June 25?

Setup is a great way to learn about antennas and antenna analyzers….

We will also need help with tear down on Sunday, June 27th!!

Can you help us?

## Field Day Promo Video

**Watch these Exciting Videos**

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

SBARA's Groundplane

# ICOM and the Adventures of Zack & Max

## Amateur Radio Comic Books

Zack and Max have great adventures and you can request copies of the comic books and calendar or read and print them online below!Amateur Radio Calendar - Volume 7

Check out the adventures on ICOM's Amateur Radio Website.

# 2007 Hayward Zucchini Festival

The call is going out for SBARA members to once again volunteer at the Hayward Zucchini Festival on August 21st and 22nd. For every shift you work earns SBARA money to help continue with all our programs.

The leadership team is asking those of you who haven't yet to consider signing up for a shift on August 21st and 22nd. We are planning to contact every member in August to request his or her support in this important fundraiser. Please consider saying yes when you're called by the SBARA telephone tree volunteer. You do not need to bring anything since the Festival provides the Business Band Transceivers.

It's fun for the family too. If you are interested in bringing the entire family, Mike Fung WA6AWI will provide a family pass for any SBARA member who signs up for a shift. If you haven't participated in the past give it a try this year.

The festival is close by in Hayward and takes only a few hours of your time. The benefit is enormous for SBARA. Go to www.sbara.org and click on the flashing 'Hayward Zucchini Festival' in the menu bar for map to Kennedy Park. For signing up or if you have any questions, contact Al Rendon at (510) 656-2427 or by e-mail at wt6k@arrl.net.

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

SBARA's Groundplane

## SBARA at Maker Faire 2010

Not everyone who attended Maker Faire on May 22 and 23 passed by the ARRL booth, but being positioned next to the men's restroom did ensure many would find us.

People of all ages, from teens to seniors wanting to become hams approached us to get information. Several people with ham parents stopped by to talk about how fascinated their parents were with the hobby. One man related how when he was nine, he listened to his father make contact with Africa, and how the far away voice described looking out at a giraffe eating fruit off the top of a tree. That image made an impression. Now retired, he wants to be a ham and relive that experience for himself. Another gentleman wanted to get his eleven year old daughter interested so we talked about the upcoming Pacificon and how they will have a Youth activities track and a separate room just for kids under 18, both ham and non-ham.

The booth provided information not only about ARRL, HRO, PAARA, Argent, and the upcoming Fremont Ham Cram, but our Tri-City VE Group, a SBARA club listing in the general information, and Youth Net fliers, so we were well represented. Several SBARA members donated their time to staff the information booth and run the APRS demonstration – Umesh Ghodke K6VUG, Dan Curtis N6WN, Bernhard Hailer AE6YN, Rudy Kelly KI6VMU, and Rita Derbas KI6SSQ. Congratulations SBARA for bringing more hams into our world.

Rita Derbas KI6SSQ

## Tri-City VE Group

Urgency is a great motivator. That's why many of the promotional letters you receive in the mail include a "Call to Action."

Our Tri-City VE Group has two "calls to action" to test at our June 17th date. One is Field Day. If you're a Technician, there's a world of contacts to be made on HF, so this is an excellent opportunity to get your upgrade.

The other reason to act is for those toying around with the idea of becoming a ham someday. Maybe you've been reading the ARRL Technician question materials or Gordon West. Maybe you've been an Elmer, providing guidance to a newbie. The Technician License Element 2 question pool will be different beginning July 1, 2010.

Our call to action: Do it now!

Upcoming Tri-City VE Group dates: June 17 at 6:30 p.m., July 10 at 9:00 a.m., August 19 at 6:30 p.m. More information at www.sbara.org.

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

SBARA's Groundplane

# Have a Good Time at Field Day

Beginning in June, I will be traveling with my family and will miss the Field Day during the weekend of June 26th and 27th. So, I figured I'd share some thoughts with fellow hams about the SBARA Field Day and hoping you'll enjoy it as much as I always have. I love outdoor activities, and SBARA Field Day is just the ticket. I have met many nice people I had never seen before, made friends instantly, learned a ton of things in a matter of hours and got to play with radio and equipment I would probably never have at home.

SBARA Field Day happens at the Lake Elizabeth (a.k.a. Central) park. It including activities like setting up, playing radio, making contacts, picnicking in the park, good food, cookies, coffee, soda, an all-night challenge, packing up and a long afternoon snooze on Sunday. It is a fairly large scale event managed by several people. The organizing committee lays out the overall plans and gets the permissions to use the park, the setup army helps in making sure everything is setup carefully and correctly, the operating group plans the various operating positions and schedules, the food committee makes sure everyone enjoys great food, while the public information officer(s) work with the media to provide the exposure the event deserves and coordinates visits by government officials and dignitaries. Kids have a blast operating the Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station. Lots and lots of pictures are taken for sharing the memories. It is a fun filled week-end in which everyone gets to do something exciting and leaves with fond memories.

The setup kicks off Friday afternoon. People start arriving at Lake Elizabeth in the afternoon with tents, equipment, antennas etc. Antennas are usually the first to be setup, closely followed by station tents and sleep over tents. Food tables and furniture are dropped off and people start laying them out under canopies and trees. The generator is fired up, the power cables are laid out, and the radios get setup. After final check-ups, initial sounds of stations waft through the speakers. Antennas are rechecked for transmissions as sample contacts are made and reports received usually from far away stations. Early Saturday, a sense of excitement builds up as the time ticks closer to 10am, the start of the operating time. Station masters take their positions in the tents poring over their radios and computers making sure everything is set just right and headphones and foot switches are arranged comfortably.

Shortly, the first contact is made and the race is on. Excitement is replaced by a strong sense of success as more contacts are made. The seasoned operators are deep into the game and you can see them quickly sliding to a steady operating style, while bystanders watch in awe. Now and then they look up to share a quick glance and a smile with the bystanders. Others move into spare chairs by the operators, ever more interested in learning the ropes or acquiring new skills. The SBARA Field Day coordinator walks between stations checking to make sure everyone is doing well, and that all the equipment is working within tolerances. Any issues are sorted out immediately.

(cont'd on next page)

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

SBARA's Groundplane

## Have a Good Time at Field Day (cont'd.)

While the operators are banging away at the contacts, there is another group busy in setting the table for lunch. The food committee starts arriving with food from their homes or trips to restaurants. Sometimes, a grill is fired up and the great cooks get ready to prepare a great barbeque meal.

After a couple of hours and hundreds of contacts, the first set of operators is beginning to take a break. They switch places with the standby operators and help them into the operating mode. The new operators, who have been closely observing the operation, get ready to take over the relay race and work the contest. An operator change is noted in the software and the operation continues relentlessly.

Lunch is a welcome break. Everyone is gathering around the lunch tables, having a sumptuous meal and talking to each other at the same time. Everyone is happy just to be out there with family and friends. Some people arrive a little later, bringing more food and deserts. After lunch, families tend to bunch together and relax under a canopy. Kids and pets have a great time while the radio operators get back in their seats making more contacts and raising the score.

Evening sees a noticeable shift, people not sleeping over start returning home, leaving the diehards to do their thing. Leftovers are covered up and lights are turned on as the remaining people huddle in the tents, preparing for the long haul ahead. The radios buzz more incessantly than ever before, as many more contacts are made. This is typically when the realizations sets in about how much this is similar to emergency communication. Contacts start looking more like successful message transfer than just a score.

Around midnight the graveyard shift operators appear and take over, letting the tired operators steal a nap for a few hours. They add another ton of contacts and the score for what-ever its worth, looks better than ever.

Sunday morning brings a feeling of relief with the realization that the close is just a few more hours away. Far away stations that did not have a chance to operate on Saturday now come on the air and create a new rush. A final change of operators is seen as tired operators take a break from the long night working the radio. Many times a new set of operators arrive at the scene and are quick to take over the operations. They enjoy the last few hours as much as everyone else.

As the closing time draws nearer, the setup team returns for the tear down and pack up. They are a welcome sight for the weary operators. Adrenaline is at an all time high and everyone is sharing exciting comments. Tear down happens surprisingly fast and by noon everyone is headed home, for a good wash, lunch and a long afternoon nap.

(cont'd on next page)

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

SBARA's Groundplane

## Have a Good Time at Field Day (cont'd).

If you want to get a hands-on experience, this is as good a time as it can get. I find setup to be the most exhilarating time. I get to watch other people and work feverishly to setup everything from tents, furniture, lights, computers, monitor shades, radios, coax, antennas, power supplies, generators etc. It is amazing how many fellow hams come by to help with the setup. Some people definitely have the knack of doing these things. This is probably one of the few group activities that bring together so many people with a common purpose, and everyone is looking out for each other's success.

All you need for operation is a tent, a table, few chairs, a table lamp, computer, transceiver, tuner, amplifier, coax cable and an antenna. Even though the club will make every effort to arrange for all the necessary equipment, people have the choice to bring any of their own equipment and join in the fun.

Be prepared for a great experience at the SBARA Field Day this June !

Umesh Ghodke

K6VUG

## Take Your HT to Work Day, June 22nd.

**Tuesday, June 22, 2010**

**What is This ?**

The very best Amateur Radio recruiter is a ham.

On June 22 we are encouraging all hams in the US that have an HT to take it with them to work. Wear it on your belt, put it on your desk or some other place where your co-workers can see it. We hope that it will raise curiosity and questions. This is a chance for you to talk to them about ham radio! At lunchtime, show them how it works. Make some contacts while they are watching. Even better, let them talk on the radio! Then invite your co-workers to come see you at Field Day weekend. There they can meet even more hams, see a full station in simulated emergency operations, learn more and get information so that they too can get their Technician license.

**What Else?**

There will be monitors on various repeaters randomly scattered throughout the country. If you are heard during the lunch hour of 12 to 1 (your local time) participating in HT Workday, showing your radio to a non-ham, you just might have one of the special monitors come back to you telling you you've just won a prize from ARRL.

**Summary**

This is a chance to have a lot of fun, recruit new hams, invite people to Field Day, get publicity, and show off Amateur Radio. Many people would like to have the capabilities of ham radio in a crisis but don't know where to start. The best recruiter is another ham who can show, guide and explain how to get their Technician license, then link them to the right people in your area. I hope you have fun and make the most of it!

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

# SBARA's Groundplane


**ANAHEIM, CA**
(Near Disneyland)
933 N. Euclid St., 92801
(714) 533-7373
(800) 854-6046
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.
anaheim@hamradio.com

**BURBANK, CA**
1525 W. Magnolia Blvd, 91506
(818) 842-1786
(800) 854-6046
Eric, K6EJC, Mgr.
Magnolia between
S. Victory & Buena Vista
burbank@hamradio.com

**OAKLAND, CA**
2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046
Mark, WI7YN, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
oakland@hamradio.com

**SAN DIEGO, CA**
5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123
(858) 560-4900
(800) 854-6046
Jose, XE2SJB, Mgr.
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa
sandiego@hamradio.com

**SUNNYVALE, CA**
510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085
(408) 736-9496
(800) 854-6046
Jon, K6WV, Mgr.
So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

**NEW CASTLE, DE**
(Near Philadelphia)
1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720
(302) 322-7092
(800) 644-4476
Jim, KJ3N, Mgr.
RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295
newcastle@hamradio.com

**PORTLAND, OR**
11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.
97223
(503) 598-0555
(800) 854-6046
Leon, W7AD, Mgr.
Tigard-99W exit
from Hwy. 5 & 217
portland@hamradio.com

**DENVER, CO**
8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231
(303) 745-7373
(800) 444-9476
John, WØIG, Mgr.
denver@hamradio.com

**NEW LOCATION!**
**PHOENIX, AZ**
10613 N. 43rd Ave, 85029
(602) 242-3515
(800) 444-9476
Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.
Corner of 43rd Ave & Peoria
phoenix@hamradio.com

**ATLANTA, GA**
6071 Buford Hwy., 30340
(770) 263-0700
(800) 444-7927
Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285
atlanta@hamradio.com

**WOODBRIDGE, VA**
(Near Washington D.C.)
14803 Build America Dr. 22191
(703) 643-1063
(800) 444-4799
Steve, W4SHG, Mgr.
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1
woodbridge@hamradio.com

**SALEM, NH**
(Near Boston)
224 N. Broadway, 03079
(603) 898-3750
(800) 444-0047
Chuck, N1UC, Mgr.
sales@hamradio.com
Exit 1, I-93;
28 mi. No. of Boston
salem@hamradio.com

**12 STORE BUYING POWER**

**HAM RADIO OUTLET**®
WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

**KENWOOD**

**TS-2000** HF/VHF/UHF TCVR
- 100W HF, 6M, 2M • 50W 70CM
- 10W 1.2 GHz w/opt UT-20 module
- Built-in TNC, DX packet cluster
- IF Stage DSP • Backlit Front Key Panel

**Call Now For Special Price!**

**TH-F6A**
2M/220/440
- Dual Chanel Receive
- .1 - 1300 mHz (cell blocked) Rx
- FM, AM, SSB
- 5w 2M/220/440 TX, FM
- 435 Memories
- Li-Ion Battery

**Call For Low Price!**

**TM-D710A** 2M/440 Dualband
- 50w 2M & UHF
- Optional Voice synthesizer
- 1000 memories • Dual receive
- Advanced APRS Features
- Echolink ® Ready w/ 10 memories
- Built-in TNC • Sky Command II+
- GPS I/O Port
- Choice of Green/Amber LCD backlight

**Call Now For Special Introductory Price!**

**OAKLAND, CA**
2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046
Mark, WI7YN, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
oakland@hamradio.com

**SUNNYVALE, CA**
510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085
(408) 736-9496
(800) 854-6046
Jon, K6WV, Mgr.
So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

**ICOM**

**IC-7000** HF/VHF Transceiver
- 160-10M/6M/2M/70cm
- 2x DSP
- Digital IF filters
- Digital Voice recorder
- 2.5 inch TFT display

**Low Pricing!**

**IC-7600** All mode Transceiver
- 100W HF/6M transceiver, Gen cov. Receiver
- Dual DSP 32 bit
- Three Roofing filters- 3,6,15khz
- 5.8 inch WQVGA display
- Hi-res real time spectrum scope

**The Ultimate Radio!**

**ALINCO**

**DJ-G7T** 2m/440/1.2 Triband HT
- Full duplex any two bands
- Internal VOX
- CTCSS/DCS + Tone scan built-in
- Hi-capacity Li-Ion battery
- 1000 Memories

**Low Pricing!**

**DR-135TP** 2M mobile
- 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
- 100 mems • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

**Low Pricing!**

**COAST TO COAST FREE SHIPPING**
UPS - Most Items Over $100

Rapid Deliveries From The Store Nearest To You!

**YAESU**

**VX-8R**
50/144/222/440 Handheld
- 5w (1W 222)
- Bluetooth optional
- waterproof/submersible 3 ft 30 mins
- GPS/APRS operation optional
- Li-ion Hi-capacity battery
- wide band Rx

NEW!

**FT-857D**
Ultra compact HF, VHF, UHF
- 100w HF/6M, 50w 2M, 20w UHF
- DSP included • 32 color display
- 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

**Call for Low Price!**

**FT-2000** HF + 6M tcvr
- 100 W w/ auto tuner
- built-in Power supply
- DSP filters / Voice memory recorder
- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
- 3 IF roofing filters

**Call Now For Low Pricing!**

# SBARA's Groundplane

**South Bay Amateur Radio Association**
**Founded 1974**
**Mailing Address**
**Box 8401**
**Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401**
**Web Site — www.sbara.org**

**President**
Jim Thomas, KI6TCE
**Vice President**
Robin Yee, KI6YTA
**Treasurer**
Don Amyx, N6DA
**Secretary**
Open Board Position
**Newsletter Editor**
Bill Artelt, WB9YVM
**Webmaster**
Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG
**Quartermaster**
Rita Derbas, KI6SSQ
**Program Facilitator**
Al Rendon, WT6K
**Photographer**
Dan Curtis, N6WN
**Refreshments**
Open Position

**Fremont Repeaters & Net Information**

| | |
|---|---|
| WA6PWW - | 147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5 |
| WA6PWW - | 223.900 –500Khz, PL 107.2 |
| WA6PWW - | 442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2 |
| K6AIR - | 146.940 –600Khz, PL 123.0 |
| K6AIR - | 441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0 |
| ARES - | Tuesday @ 7:30pm - 147.015 + PL 103.5 |

## SBARA Meeting Location

Our meeting location is at

Hurricane Electric.

The address in Fremont is:

760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.

Bring your HF transceiver, antenna) or HT !

Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600

Also consider joining us at Wok City Diner for Dinner at 6PM

Mingle with your fellow SBARA members

The **South Bay Amateur Radio Association** is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. The club has been in existence since 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, a California not-for-profit tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes. We sponsor training for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

SBARA meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fremont, California. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. After conducting business, coffee and snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. We hope to see you there!

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536

# Announcements

**SBARA's June meeting is the 11th. Our meeting location is at**

**Hurricane Electric. The address in Fremont is:**

**760 Mission Court Fremont, Ca.**

**Come to the meeting and bring your;**

**Go Pack, HF Rig, HT, and Antennas!!**

**The Ground Plane — KU6S**
**http://www.sbara.org**
**South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA**
**P.O. Box 8401**

The Groundplane Copyright 2010 — SBARA's Monthly News and Information Publication. Fremont, CA. 94536